

Michel De Montaigne The Complete Essays Penguin Classics

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george orwell s essays illuminate the life and work of one of the greatest writers of this century a man who elevated political writing to an art this outstanding collection brings together orwell s longer major essays and a fine selection of shorter pieces that includes my country right or left decline of the english murder shooting an elephant and a hanging with great originality and wit orwell unfolds his views on subjects ranging from a revaluation of charles dickens to the nature of socialism from a comic yet profound discussion of naughty seaside postcards to a spirited defence of english cooking displaying an almost unrivalled mastery of english plain prose orwell s essays created a unique literary manner from the process of thinking aloud and continue to challenge move and entertain this penguin modern classics edition includes an introduction by bernard crick

the collected essays of the moral voice of the american stage the new york times in a penguin classics deluxe edition arthur miller was not only one of america s most important twentieth century playwrights but he was also one of its most influential literary cultural and intellectual voices throughout his career he consistently remained one of the country s leading public intellectuals advocating tirelessly for social justice global democracy and the arts theater scholar susan c w abbotson introduces this volume as a selection of miller s finest essays organized in

three thematic parts essays on the theater essays on specific plays like death of a salesman and the crucible and sociopolitical essays on topics spanning from the depression to the twenty first century written with playful wit clear eyed intellect and above all human dignity these essays offer unmatched insight into the work of arthur miller and the turbulent times through which he guided his country for more than seventy years penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the english speaking world with more than 1 700 titles penguin classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors as well as up to date translations by award winning translators

this volume contains a generous selection from the essays johnson published twice weekly as the rambler in the early 1750s it was here that he first created the literary character and forged the distinctive prose style that established him as a public figure also included here is the best of johnson s later journalism including essays from the periodicals the adventurer and the idler

the works collected in this volume provide an illuminating introduction to george eliot s incisive views on religion art and science and the nature and purpose of fiction essays such as evangelical teaching show her rejecting her earlier religious beliefs while woman in france questions conventional ideas about female virtues and marriage and notes on form in art sets out theories of idealism and realism that she developed further in middlemarch and daniel deronda it also includes selections from eliot s translations of works by strauss and feuerbach that challenged many ideas about christianity excerpts from her poems and reviews of writers such as wollstonecraft goethe and browning wonderfully rich in imagery and observations these pieces reveal the intellectual development of this most challenging and rewarding of writers

these short fiction and prose pieces display the variety of twain s imaginative invention his diverse talents and his extraordinary emotional range twain was a master of virtually every prose genre in fables and stories speeches and essays he skilfully adapted extended or satirized literary conventions guided only by his unruly imagination from the comic wit that sparkles in maxims from pudd nhead wilson s calendar to the parodic perfection of an awful terrible medieval romance to the satirical delights of the innocents abroad and roughing it from the warm nostalgia of early days to the bitter brooding tone of the man that corrupted hadleyburg to the anti imperial vehemence of to the person sitting in the darkness and the poignant grief expressed in death of jean twain emerges in this volume in many guises all touched by genius for more than seventy years penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the english speaking world with more than 1 700 titles penguin classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors as well as up to date translations by award winning translators

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the works collected in this volume provide an illuminating introduction to george eliot s incisive views on religion art and science and the nature and purpose of fiction essays such as evangelical teaching show her rejecting her earlier religious beliefs while woman in france questions conventional ideas about female virtues and marriage and notes on form in art sets out theories of idealism and realism that she developed further in maddam trollope and daniel deronda it also includes selections from eliot s translations of works by strauss and feuerbach that challenged many ideas about christianity excerpts from her poems and reviews of writers such as wollstonecraft goethe and browning wonderfully rich in imagery and observations these pieces reveal the intellectual development of this most challenging and rewarding of writers

these two works on life s fleeting pleasures are by buddhist monks from medieval japan but each shows a different world view in the short memoir h j ki ch mei recounts his decision to withdraw from worldly affairs and live as a hermit in a tiny hut in the mountains contemplating the impermanence of human existence kenko however displays a fascination with more earthy matters in his collection of anecdotes advice and observations from ribald stories of drunken monks to aching nostalgia for the fading traditions of the japanese court essays in idleness is a constantly surprising work that ranges across the spectrum of human experience meredith mckinney s excellent new translation also includes notes and an introduction exploring the spiritual and historical background of the works ch mei was born into a family of shinto priests in around 1155 at a time when the stable world of the court was rapidly breaking up he became an important though minor poet of his day and at the age of fifty withdrew from the world to become a tonsured monk he died in around 1216 kenk was born around 1283 in kyoto he probably became a monk in his late twenties and was also noted as a calligrapher today he is remembered for his wise and witty aphorisms essays in idleness meredith mckinney who has also translated sei shonagon s the pillow book for penguin classics is a translator of both contemporary and classical japanese literature she lived in japan for twenty years and is currently a visiting fellow at the australian national university in canberra essays in idleness is a most delightful book and one that has served as a model of japanese style and taste since the 17th century these cameo like vignettes reflect the importance of the little fleeting futile things and each essay is kenko himself asian student

containing the road to wigan pier orwell s account of poverty in northern england this title also includes the english people in which he lists the nation s characteristics and his essays on class the horrors of private school life and the merits of cricket gardening and pubs

a collection of essays dealing with a variety of subjects including modern writing feminism and education in women and fiction virginia woolf considers the reasons why so many educated women began writing novels in the 18th century in another she discusses the lack of education that women received and the narrowness of conventional education

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